

## MUCH GOOD DONE IN CRAIG COUNTY

Good Work Done By State Men in  
Craig County During Last  
Week.

Last week was a banner one for Craig County Farmers' Institute, and saw more interest aroused on the subject of our possibilities from an agricultural standpoint than ever before in our history. Hon. Hardy Dial, the state cotton expert, and Prof. Wilkinson of the state A. & M. college, spent three days lecturing to our people and are primarily responsible for the interest taken. They addressed good audiences at Blue Jacket and Welch on Thursday and were to have spoken at Centralia on Friday, but the weather made it impossible to reach there and return in time for their engagement at Big Cabin Friday night, so they spoke at the latter place only. They spent Saturday in Vinita, and spoke at the court house in the afternoon. Mr. Dial is one of Oklahoma's most unique characters; a successful practical farmer who has demonstrated in actual experience, the truths he so effectively presents from the platform—not a "book-farmer" or "scatter-brained" theorist, who promulgates some untried doctrine—but a man who has been educated in the school of actual experience and whose statements are consistent with reason, every day knowledge and plain "horse sense." This is the kind of talk that interests farmers and business men and carries conviction to all who hear. Many of our people have mistrusted the value of the organization known as the "farmers' institute," but if any such are left we feel sure it is only they who failed to hear Mr. Dial.

Prof. Wilkinson was particularly interested in organizing the boys and girls corn clubs, and succeeded in enrolling about one hundred and twenty-five, which appears quite creditable for our first year when we consider that two years since there were only twice that number in the whole state. These two men, chaperoned by our county superintendent, Mr. Shelton, make an excellent team and the institute after a vote of thanks for what they have done already, has requested the state board of agriculture to send them back as soon as possible, although ours is perhaps the least organized county in the state, both these men were so impressed with our agricultural possibilities, that they do not hesitate to say that proper organization and agitation is all that is needed to raise our annual production from less than two (as it now is) to more than five million dollars. This means more than three million extra annually turned loose among our people, and is far in excess of what we can hope to gain from all the railroads ever projected, or all the factories ever proposed, and this without one dollar of bonus or other outlay except organized, united and intelligent effort on the part of our farmers and business men. You may doubt this statement but if you had heard Hardy Dial you would not, at any rate its worth the trial. Won't you join us?

### Reciprocity Bill Reported Favorably.

By Associated Press.  
Washington, D. C., April 13.—The Canadian reciprocity bill introduced in the house yesterday was reported favorably to the house today by the ways and means committee. The committee also passed favorably on the free list of the tariff measure, but will not report it until tomorrow.

### Representative Mitchell Improving.

Washington, D. C., April 13.—Representative A. C. Mitchell, of Kansas, who has been ill here is improved today. He expects to be at the capitol tomorrow.

### Train Robbery in Kansas.

By Associated Press.  
Syracuse, Kans., April 13.—An unknown man boarded the Santa Fe passenger train, No. 5, as it left here this morning and robbed Conductor Rely and brakeman O'Leary of a small sum. When he attempted to rob the passengers Rely resisted and was shot twice and seriously injured. The robber jumped off the train and escaped. A posse is searching for him.

## TWO ACQUITTALS RETURNED BY COUNTY COURT JURY

The county court today is hearing the case of John Coats, of Welch, charged with conveying liquor. This case probably will occupy the remainder of today's session.

Yesterday afternoon J. A. Smith and Marion Brookshire were acquitted of a liquor charge.

Frank Euffington, a negro of this city, also was acquitted on a liquor charge this morning.

A. B. Cravens plead guilty, this morning, to a charge of assault, and was fined \$25 and costs.

## ADVOCATES MILLS FOR SALT PLAINS

State Geologist Gives It as His Opinion  
That Lands Are Valueless For  
Farming Purposes.

A recent communication was received by Chas. N. Gould from an Oklahoma congressman at Washington, referring to the salt plains of Alfalfa county. It was mentioned, if anything could be done in the way of national legislation that would aid in the development of this land, or would lead to its reclamation to agriculture.

Mr. Gould, as director of the state geological survey, replied, that having been over the plains many times, he could see nothing which would lead him to believe that there was any possibility of this land being made valuable to agriculture.

There are, however, two possible solutions to the problem. First, the establishment of salt plants. The amount of salt water is practically inexhaustible. Indications lead to the idea that this plain which includes an area of approximately sixty square miles, is underlaid with a saliferous shale. That is to say, the shale is impregnated with salt, and that water penetrating this salty shale dissolves the salt and become salt springs. There is no way of estimating the amount from these plains, but there is doubtless enough to supply a hundred salt plants. A branch of the Santa Fe, which crosses the plains, has direct connection with the Fort Smith and Western railroad, which penetrates the coal field. In other words, these plains have direct access to coal; therefore the matter of fuel should be easy of solution.

The second proposition has been advocated in the press a number of times, namely the institution of hospitals for tuberculosis patients and persons afflicted with similar diseases. This however, is merely a suggestion of Mr. Gould's, for as a geologist and not a medical man he feels that a problem of this nature should be dealt with by an army surgeon or some one of that kind.

Mr. Gould refers to the first proposition as being the most feasible, and further states that no doubt the first salt plant to locate on the great plains of Alfalfa county will command the future salt trade of Oklahoma.

George Vogle of Appleton Cit, Mo., is here looking after property interests.

# TORNADO LEAVES DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN ITS WAKE

**Town of Bigheart, Osage County, Oklahoma,  
is Wiped Off the Map and Nine Persons Re-  
ported Killed--Two Killed in Craig County  
and Many Deaths Reported in Kansas  
Town--Injured at Bigheart Loaded  
in Box Cars and Taken to  
Tulsa Hospitals.**

In a tornado that swept over the northwest portion of this county late Wednesday afternoon, two babies are known to have been killed, two women probably fatally injured and several other persons seriously hurt.

The storm was not confined to Craig county, but, from reports received last night and today, swept a path across a portion of Oklahoma and Kansas, from the Osage nation on the south and west to Lawrence, Kans., on the north. In all, many persons were killed and injured and the twister wrought havoc to property in its wake.

The damage done in Craig county was in the vicinity of Hollow and the Hudson creek country, about eight or nine miles west of Welch. At Hollow the store and postoffice was wrecked and many farm houses in the vicinity demolished.

The home of Charles Knight, a son-in-law of former County Commissioner A. A. Barker, about seven miles west of Welch, was destroyed and the baby of the family killed. Mrs. Knight was also perhaps fatally injured. Mr. Knight and the three other children were injured, but not seriously. At the home of J. C. Moore, northwest of Centralia, another baby was killed and its mother, Mrs. J. C. Moore, perhaps fatally injured.

Owing to the distance from towns and the impaired condition of the wires it has been impossible to get the details of the storm damage.

Kansas City, Mo., April 13.—Meager reports today from the tornado stricken districts of Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri show that the number killed in yesterday evening's catastrophe may not reach twenty-five, as was at first announced. Wire service is demoralized, and definite information from many points is not obtainable. At Bigheart, Okla., two were killed and sixty injured. Every business house in the town was destroyed, including two hotels, the railway station and school house. Those seriously injured were taken on a train to Tulsa. The tornado swept several towns in central and north central Kansas, killing several persons, injuring many and doing a vast damage to property.

One person was killed and three seriously injured at Reserve, Kans. Mrs. Fred Stone was killed when her house collapsed there. Her two sons were seriously injured. The wind was so severe that it stripped the clothing from Mrs. Stone and children. Mrs. Roy Vernon was seriously injured when her house was wrecked. The tornado destroyed five houses in Reserve.

Much damage was done in the farming district near Whiting, Kans.

It is reported three persons were killed in Delaware, Okla. Several houses were destroyed at Ochelata, Okla.

Thirty-two persons were hurt, thirty houses demolished and damage, estimated at fifty thousand dollars was done at Eskridge, Kans. The school house there was blown down and thirty pupils injured. Mrs. Claire Rutledge and Daniel Cousins were badly hurt by flying timbers.

At Hiawatha, Kans., June Petton, a seven-year-old school girl, was killed, and Laura Brown, a school teacher, was badly injured, when the tornado struck the school house. Gladys Melot, William Roberts and Mr. Zimmerman, also were badly injured.

At Holt, Mo., scarcely a house escaped injury from the wind and hail, but there were no casualties. Forty houses were wrecked at Lawrence, Kans. Mrs. Joseph Sullivan and Mrs. Ethel Wheeler, a negro, were killed outright. James Pike, aged seventy and Dave Wheeler, a negro were badly hurt. At Bigheart, Okla., Frank Kearn and T. S. Hain were killed and about

twenty seriously injured, some fatally, it is believed. Property damaged in that vicinity is estimated at half a million dollars. Three persons were killed and a score injured at Plummer, Ark.

Tulsa, Okla., April 13.—A heavy wind storm attaining the velocity of a tornado in some sections, and accompanied by rain and hail and lightning, swept over western Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma yesterday afternoon, killing over a dozen persons, injuring almost two hundred, practically destroying two towns, wrecking scores of buildings and putting almost every telephone and telegraph wire in the district touched by the wind out of commission.

The heaviest loss of life as well as the heaviest loss of property was sustained at Bigheart, Okla., about 35 miles northwest of Tulsa, in Osage county, where was enacted the saddest of dramas by a heavy gale and falling timbers.

The early reports of the storm proved very conflicting. Twenty persons were reported dead; fifteen to twenty-five as fatally injured, and one hundred and fifty as slightly hurt.

At 1:30 o'clock this morning it was definitely known that nine persons had been killed. The known dead at that time were: John Kerns, Fred Hammond, Will Marlow, William Marlow. Every wire with which to establish communication had practically been leveled to the ground.

Shortly before 2 o'clock this morning forty persons, among them some of whom were thought would not survive the night, were brought to Tulsa and taken to the different hospitals.

The entire medical staff of Tulsa, as well as every nurse, was pressed into the service of caring for the injured. A large crowd of Tulsans went without sleep waiting the arrival of the relief train to ascertain if relatives had been hurt in the storm.

The tornado struck Bigheart a few minutes after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The day had been sultry and storm clouds came and went as they gathered in the skies over eastern Oklahoma. It was an ideal temperature, and many who had experienced the horrors of cyclones gazed into the skies and feared that the weather was mischievous.

The tornado was accompanied by a driving rain and swept everything before it. Houses were blown from their foundations and the town of Bigheart was utterly demolished.

As soon as communication could be established with nearby towns, a relief train was started from Avant. This consisted of a work train, standing on a sidetrack. Into this piled fifty persons ready to assist, and five physicians had their tendered services readily accepted.

Six of the less seriously injured, but who were not able to walk, were placed on a gasoline car and taken to Avant.

Bigheart has a population of between four and five hundred, and it is estimated that fully one-third of the entire population was physically injured in one way or another. The oil refinery located there was blown down. The new \$25,000 school house was wrecked and its timbers strewn over the surrounding country but a few minutes after the teachers had turned the keys in the doors at the close of their day's task and before many of the four score pupils had reached their homes. It is thought that each of these would have met death had they been in the structure at the time the wind struck it, as the school building lay directly in the heart of the storm.

Practically every building lying to the south side of the Midland Valley tracks was either leveled or twisted

### Champagne War in France.

By Associated Press.  
Eperany, France, April 13.—Despite the fact that the department of marine and a vast armed camp of infantry and dragoons here, rioting in the champagne district broke out afresh today. At Vinay the rioters threw up barricades and held back the troops while another band fired a big champagne depot. Women are foremost in the destruction. They threw themselves on the road and dared the cavalry to ride over them.

## STANDING OF CONTESTANTS IN BIG PIANO CONTEST

The following is the standing of the contestants in the Chieftain's piano contest:

MRS. BLANCHE JOHNSON.....	134,875
MRS. J. N. TAYLOR.....	126,150
MRS. ACHGILL.....	125,575
MISS JIMMIE CONNELL.....	13,600
MRS. WM. SAPP.....	11,100
MISS MILDRED BRITT.....	8,400
MISS FANNIE GARRETT.....	8,225
MISS EULALA KELL.....	7,575
MISS EHEL O'NEIL.....	3,125
MISS IDA WILLIAMS, Catale..	300
MISS S. WRIGHT.....	175
MISS SADIE CASTO.....	125

## RAYNER TALKS OF MEXICAN TROUBLE

Baltimore Senator Confident That  
There Will Be No War With  
Mexico or Japan.

Washington, D. C., April 13.—The first expression in congress concerning the situation on the Mexican border was heard today when Senator Rayner of Maryland, addressed the senate on that subject. Although a democrat, Mr. Rayner spoke in confidence of the attitude of President Taft and expressed the opinion that there would be no war with either Mexico or Japan.

While he did not so express himself in exact terms, it was evident that Mr. Rayner had in mind the reports that Japan is exerting herself to procure a coaling station on the Pacific coast of Mexico. He said:

"I am willing to admit that if Japan is entering into negotiations for coaling stations and bases for naval supplies for military purposes with Mexico, we are entitled to know what these negotiations are. Congress, is however, without any information or evidence on the subject. This country would not ordinarily be entitled to know the secret treaties or alliances that other countries make, but on the part of Mexico we would unquestionably be entitled to an explanation." He added that he had no fear that history may repeat itself or that any government would attempt to imitate the example of Napoleon III, who through false pretenses, and subterfuges sent an Austrian archduke to a Mexican throne simply to abandon him afterwards to despair and death." He was confident that Japan does not seek war with the United States and declared there could be no cause for hostilities between the two countries.

Discrediting the report that Japan might desire to take surreptitious possession of the island of Guam, a cable (Continued on Last Page.)

and wrecked. This section of the village was that in which the residences were located.

The amount of damage done to property at this time is but a matter of conjecture, but from the reports of eye witnesses it will be heavy.

That there was no loss on account of fire was due to the fact that a drenching rain soaked into the dilapidated dwellings. The afternoon having been warm, many stoves were not burning.

Little damage was done to property in Tulsa county, although a high wind prevailed during the greater part of the day. Numerous clouds which omened ill for humanity hovered about the city of Tulsa but little of violence was felt. There was but a slight trace of rain early during last evening.

Topeka, Kans., April 13.—At least five persons killed, one probably fatally injured, half a hundred more or less seriously injured and property loss amounting to many hundred thousand dollars are the known results of a tornado which swept across the eastern part of Kansas Wednesday afternoon.

(Continued on page 2.)

## WILL FIGHT FOR GENERAL REVISION

House Will Waste No Time in Checking Tariff Revision Measures Up to Senate.

Washington, D. C., April 13.—The house was in session only a few minutes yesterday but in that time the actual work of the session was begun. The introduction of the Canadian treaty bill and a measure intended to be its companion through the lower house at least, in which farm machinery, fresh and dressed meats, and a long list of articles usually listed as the "things the farmers have to buy," are placed on the free list.

The Canadian reciprocity agreement is unchanged except in a minor way from the measure introduced to cover the same subject in the last session. According to the agreement reached in the house caucus last night, Chairman Underwood of the ways and means committee introduced both measures and they have been given the party label. That means that they will be passed through the house without delay and checked up to the senate.

That is the beginning of the tariff fight. After disposing of the two bills introduced, the democrats will begin the work of revising the woolen schedule, the cotton schedule and such other schedules and in such order as the democratic caucus may from time to time order. Everything will be done by caucus action at this session.

While the republicans of the senate do not regard the tariff bill introduced with favor, because they say it has been drawn without ample consideration and is a "hit and miss" affair, yet it will afford the senate the opportunity to get to work on its own tariff bill. Tariff bills must originate in the house, but the bill now in the house will be sufficient excuse, when it reaches the senate, to permit that body to enter into the entire subject of the tariff. So while the house is working on the various schedules it proposes to revise, the progressives and the reactionaries of the senate will have time to measure strength in the molding of a republican tariff bill.

As for the progressives of the senate, it may be said that they will renew their fight for a general revision of the Aldrich-Payne act. They do not believe that the democratic policy, as expressed in the house bill introduced today, will serve the purpose of taking the inequalities out of the present tariff law. Their efforts will be centered on the revision of that measure without special reference to the Canadian treaty, which they believe will take care of itself when it reaches the senate.

It may develop that the progressive idea of revising the Payne law for the correction of its inequalities, and the democratic idea of revising it schedule by schedule are not far apart. In that case the progressives and the democrats will not find it difficult to agree upon a tariff bill. But whatever the outcome in the senate, the democrats of the house have left no doubt as to their intention to check their revision measures up to the senate without wasting any time in doing it.

### Many Injured at Joplin.

Joplin, Mo., April 13.—Seven persons were seriously injured, many others experienced narrow escapes from death, a property damage of many thousand dollars was inflicted and telegraph and telephone and interurban railway service was demoralized for several hours by a wind storm that swept the district last night, lasting less than four minutes.

The injured:

T. J. Welton, Joplin, leg broken, internal injuries.  
B. R. Baker, Webb City, crushed against side of house.  
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Spencer, Webb City, crushed by falling timbers.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wellington, Webb City, severely bruised.

Mrs. Mary English, injured at Spencer home.

Young son of Benjamin Stickelman, Galena, Kans., probably fatally injured in collapse of residence.

Welton was picked up by the wind in the heart of the Joplin business section, carried ten feet into the air and blown along exactly the length of a city block, being deposited at the corner of Fourth and Main in the hall of a building.

His right leg was broken and he is believed to have suffered internal injuries. His flight was observed by several hundred persons, but by a peculiar freak of the wind, no others were carried into the air, although several were knocked down by the blast.

MILFORD - BERGER SHOE COMPANY.

New Shipment.

Ladies' Oxfords  
and Slippers

OPENED TODAY. A LOT OF HANDSOME ONES